

Remarks

Claims 3, 7, 8, 12, 13 and 15 through 20 are now pending.

Claim 1 has been further amended to more specifically require the elastomers to be selected from the group consisting of elastomers intended to exclude elastomers prepared from a combination of 1,3-butadiene, isoprene together with amino-containing vinyl monomers and hydroxyl-containing vinyl monomers as required by the Takagishi cited reference.

The Rejection

The following patent has been relied upon to the Applicant's claims:

	<u>U.S. Patents</u>	
6,111,045		Takagishi et al. (Takagishi)

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. Section 102

Claims 3, 7, 8, 12, 13 and 15 through 20, prior to the present amendment of claim 3, have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being anticipated by Takagishi.

A reconsideration of the rejection of the Applicant's claims is requested in view of amendments made to claim 3.

Discussion

It is apparent that the rejection of the Applicant's claims is maintained on the basis that the elastomers prepared from the amino-containing vinyl monomers and hydroxyl-containing vinyl monomers required by the Takagishi reference were not excluded in the sense of 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b).

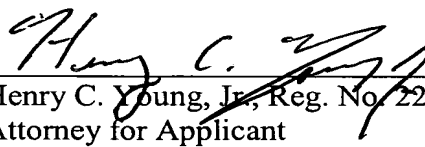
The Applicant's claim 3 has been further amended with an intention of excluding elastomers prepared from a combination of 1,3-butadiene and styrene monomers together with monomers recited by Takagishi to include primary amino-containing vinyl monomers such as for example, acrylamide, methacrylamide, various amino methacrylamides and

secondary amino-containing vinyl monomers such as, for example anilino-styrenes and anilinophenylbutadienes.

Conclusion

It is believed that the subject of the Applicant's amended claim 3, and the associated dependent claims, is patentably distinct from and not anticipated by the cited Takagishi reference in the sense of 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b).

Respectfully submitted,



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